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## Report of July 8 Clean Grain Meeting

Washington, D. C.

Teamwork and enthusiasm for the job ahead was the keynote of the National Clean Grain meeting held in Washington, D. C., July 8.

Chairman C. M. Ferguson, Administrator of the Federal Extension Service, told the 100 grain industry, farm organization and governmental agency representatives present that the purpose of the meeting was three-fold: 1) to further explore the opportunities for teamwork in the clean grain effort; 2) to better acquaint all concerned with the clean grain educational programs of the State Extension Services and the U. S. Department of Agriculture; and 3) to study ways of strengthening these programs.

Clyde Noyes, Nebraska Extension Service, stated that the objective of the Cooperative Extension Service in the clean grain program is to bring all forces and pertinent information to bear upon the problem, and to stimulate action on the part of producers, handlers and processors. Noyes was on loan from Nebraska for three months this spring working with M. P. Jones, Roy Paramore, J. R. Paulling, George Foster, Bryan Phifer, Phil Aylesworth, Karl Knaus, Fred Jans, C. A. Sheffield, Otto Croy and other Federal Extension Service personnel on a special clean grain educational program.

All of the main grain producing States have been intensifying the grain sanitation phase of their extension programs for several years, reported Noyes. Thirteen States now have State clean grain committees or councils and nineteen carried on special clean grain educational programs last year. Educational aids have been provided these and other States by the Federal Extension Service in the form of brochures, fact sheets, and slide stories.

Noyes pointed out that the purpose of the brochure is to serve as a guide to extension workers and others in planning and carrying out clean grain educational programs, and that it contains specific suggestions for intensifying the work.

"You have to be sold on clean grain before you can sell it to anyone else," stated Wayne Colberg, North Dakota extension entomologist. Colberg credited much of the success of the State's clean grain program to the guidance and support provided by the State clean grain committee. The committee, composed of representatives of 50 organizations and agencies, has been active since 1951.

Youth groups have also contributed greatly to the work, said Colberg. Clean grain projects were carried by 4-H club members in 39 of the State's 53 counties and by vo-ag members in 35 of the State's 146 FFA chapters last year.

"It takes time and money to carry on a special clean grain program," stated Colberg. Visual aids are urgently needed, but have to be localized to be fully effective.

Colberg illustrated his talk with a movie showing various phases of the North Dakota program. Highlight of the program this year is the Clean Grain Week, July 11 to 16, proclaimed by the Governor.

Lloyd Case, Associate Director of the Grain Division of the Department's Commodity Stabilization Service, emphasized that the necessary tools must be provided those carrying out clean grain work if their efforts are to be successful. He pledged full cooperation of his agency and suggested re-activating the Food and Industry Liaison Committee as one means of strengthening the clean grain program.

Our research is centered on preventive rather than control measures, reported William Dachtler of the Department's Agricultural Marketing Service. Current research includes work directed at improvements in fumigant procedures, development of safe protective sprays and dusts, simpler methods for detecting insect infestation, improved storage structures, prevention of heat damage, and appraisal of present and experimental techniques. Much of this work is carried on in cooperation with the State Experiment Stations and commercial organizations.

Dorr Green, Chief of the Fish and Wildlife Service's Predator and Rodent Control Division, stated his agency's work is directed at research, education, and action, and that the Fish and Wildlife Service is working hand-in-hand with the Cooperative Extension Service on rodent and bird control. In pointing up the magnitude of the job, he reminded the audience that there are more than 100 million rats in this country and that it is a continual fight just to keep this number static.

Railroads are doing everything within their power to keep grain clean in transit, said J. Don Parel of the Association of American Railroads. As a part of this effort, some 20,000 boxcars are being equipped with fiberglass linings to help prevent grain contamination.

Roy F. Hendrickson of the National Federation of Grain Cooperatives strongly urged that the "scare" approach be avoided in the clean grain program and pointed out that grain cooperatives are going all-out on grain sanitation.

"Few commodities offered the American public," said Hendrickson, "compare with wheat in cleanliness."

Hendrickson asked that States be encouraged to add sufficient personnel to their staffs to adequately carry out an effective clean grain program.

"Millers are willing and anxious to cooperate in every possible way in keeping grain clean," stated Herman Fakler of the Millers' National Federation. Manuals on mill sanitation and bakery sanitation have been distributed throughout the industry, and we are continually working with the railroads, State Experiment Stations, and other organizations on improved methods of attacking the problem.



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Fakler said one tangible result of this work is the complete elimination of the reuse of flour bags.

John T. McCarthy, president of the Jersey Bread Company of Toledo, Ohio, who represented the American Bakers Association at the meeting, stated that work directed at the source of the problem has proved most effective in eliminating it. He told the group that the research staff of the American Institute of Baking makes regular inspections of bakeries calling any irregularities to the attention of management. These inspections are even more stringent than those made by governmental inspectors and our bakers are proud of their record of cleanliness, he said.

George Larrick of the Health, Education and Welfare Department's Food and Drug Administration explained his agency's program and pledged its wholehearted cooperation in all clean grain educational programs.

The following recommendations and comments were made during the afternoon session.

<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1. More visual aids and other educational materials, including a clean grain movie, and short, localized films for TV use, be prepared.	a) Each organization or agency represented agreed to send the Federal Extension Service a list of visuals and other educational material now on hand or contemplated.  b) The Federal Extension Service agreed to put out a summary of this material plus any other material available.  c) Since movies need to be localized and cost a considerable amount to film, there was not any general agreement on producing one.
2. State committees with organization and agency representation should be formed in each grain State, including fringe areas.	A majority of the main grain States have such committees. Some need to be broadened and made more active.
3. All interests represented at the clean grain meeting should advise their counterparts at the State or regional level to cooperate with State Extension Services. Likewise, Extension Services should work closely with all segments of the grain industry.	

<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Comments</u>
4. Regional meetings patterned after the National Clean Grain meeting should be held.	a) Regional conferences where clean grain was a major topic have been held or are scheduled this year in East Lansing, Walla Walla, Galveston, Minneapolis, and other regularly scheduled meetings.
	b) The clean grain problem will be discussed with State extension directors at regional administrative conferences soon.
5. Provide unit instruction material on clean grain for Vocational Agricultural instructors.	The Vocational Agriculture division of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare agreed to cooperate in preparation of such materials.
6. Each State provide a bulletin similar to the one published by Virginia which puts all the information on clean grain, from seeding to harvest, in one cover.	States will have to consider the relative value of such an overall publication compared to short, timely publications in meeting local needs.
7. Two committees should be activated: a) interdepartmental committee within the Government b) Liaison committee with organization and governmental representation.	This recommendation goes beyond the function of the Federal Extension Service and should be considered in relation to existing committees.
8. Additional extension personnel should be added or present personnel reassigned to give more concentrated attention to the clean grain program.	a) The Senate Agricultural subcommittee on appropriations made the following statement in connection with the hearings on extension appropriations this year:  "The committee endorses the statement in the House report as to the need for an intensified educational program among agricultural producers on grain sanitation problems, and urges



Recommendation

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Comments

the Department of Agriculture in cooperation with State and County services to foster this educational program to the full extent of their ability."

- b) Several States have already added additional personnel or made reassignment of responsibilities.







